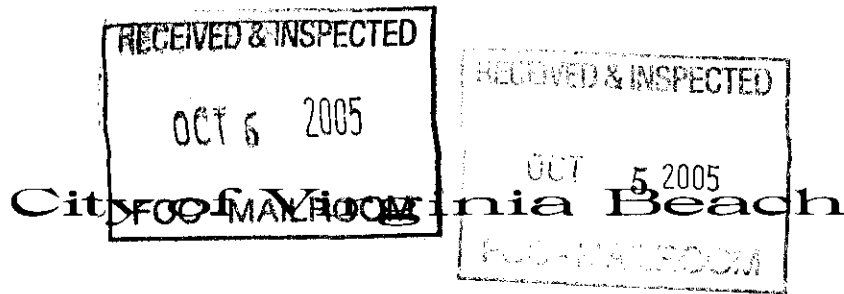




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September 29, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina and other disasters have demonstrated that our nation's telecommunications systems are susceptible to widespread failure. In cases of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communication is available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies and other first responders.

As Chief of Police for the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia's most populous city, I think it is imperative that we have access to a cost-effective and reliable back-up to our existing public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of commercially-provided advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

In order to provide both commercial service and a secondary communications system in the event of a land-based communications failure, licensees must have a robust capability.


As the FCC moves forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to the two license holders who are working diligently to fulfill the terms of their FCC license agreements on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

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September 29, 2005
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The FCC should move forward quickly so that public safety has access to these advanced satellite systems as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



A.M. Jacobs, Jr.
Chief of Police

AMJjr:mjw

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission